Bypass on NH-52

3087. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the first proposal was accepted for construction of bypass at Lakhimpur on NH-52 and progress made for fixation of alignment, sanctioned and actual start of the work, year-wise;

(b) the target set to complete the construction indicating outlay, sanctioned during the Ninth Plan and proposed for Tenth Plan, year-wise; and

(c) the status of the construction of Choukighat bridge near Biswanath Charali to shorten the length of NH-52 by about 30 kms.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) A proposal for carrying out feasibility study for the construction of a bypass at Lakhimpur was approved in January, 1991. Based on the feasibility study, Assam PWD submitted proposed alignment for bypass. Since proposal was incomplete and various alternatives were not examined, State PWD was requested for a joint inspection which was carried out in November, 1997. Modified alignment proposal is yet to be received from State PWD.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In December, 2001, this Ministry returned the proposal for Model study for this bridge to Assam Government. Since then no proposal has been received.

Upgradation of roads from Khurdha to Bolangir in Orissa

3088. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for upgradation of the State road from Khurdha to Bolangir *via* Nayagarh-Daspalla-Boudh and Sonepur in Orissa;

(b) whether there is growing demand also to convert this State Highway to National Highway; and